

We claim:

1. A computerized method for configuring an electronic device, the method comprising steps of:
 - 5 (a) compiling firmware code; and
 - (b) generating a representation of a minimized sector variable-bits-per-inch table from a first set of variable-bits-per-inch parameters.
- 10 2. The computerized method of claim 1, wherein the generating step (b) is performed after the compiling step (a).
- 15 3. The computerized method of claim 1, wherein the electronic device further comprises a mass storage device and the method further comprises:
 - (c) downloading the representation of a minimized sector variable-bits-per-inch table to a recording medium of the mass storage device; and
 - (d) downloading the firmware code to a read-only-memory of the mass storage device.
- 20 4. The computerized method of claim 3, wherein the mass storage device further comprises a disc drive and the downloading step (c) further comprises:
 - (c)(1) downloading the representation of a minimized sector variable-bits-per-inch table to a system sector of the recording medium of the disc drive.
- 25 5. The computerized method of claim 3, wherein the downloading step (d) is performed before the downloading step (c).
6. The computerized method of claim 1, the method further comprising:
 - (c) receiving a second set of variable-bits-per-inch parameters; and

(d) generating the representation of a minimized sector variable-bits-per-inch table from the second set of variable-bits-per-inch parameters.

7. The computerized method of claim 1, the method further comprising:

5 (c) generating the representation of a minimized sector variable-bits-per-inch table from the set of variable-bits-per-inch parameters that was most recently received.

8. A computerized method for obtaining at least one variable-bits-per-inch parameter of an electronic device, the method comprising steps of:

10 (a) receiving a request for the at least one variable-bits-per-inch parameter of the electronic device, the request including an indication of a head and an indication of a zone; and

15 (b) obtaining the at least one variable-bits-per-inch parameter of the electronic device from a minimized sector variable-bits-per-inch table, from the indication of the head and an indication of the zone.

9. The computerized method of claim 8, wherein the obtaining step (b) further comprises:

20 (b)(1) generating a query for the at least one variable-bits-per-inch parameter of the electronic device, from the indication of a head and an indication of a zone;

(b)(2) transmitting the query to a manager of the minimized sector variable-bits-per-inch table; and

25 (b)(3) receiving the at least one variable-bits-per-inch parameter.

10. The computerized method of claim 8, wherein the electronic device further comprises a mass storage device and the minimized sector variable-bits-per-inch table is stored on a system sector of the recording medium of the mass storage device.

5 11. The computerized method of claim 10, wherein the mass storage device further comprises a disc drive.

12. A computerized apparatus for configuring an electronic device, the apparatus comprising:

10 a compiler of firmware code; and

 a generator of a representation of a minimized sector variable-bits-per-inch table from a first set of variable-bits-per-inch parameters, the generator operably coupled to the compiler.

15 13. The computerized apparatus of claim 12, wherein the electronic device further comprises a mass storage device and the apparatus further comprises:

 a downloader of the representation of a minimized sector variable-bits-per-inch table to a recording medium of the mass storage device, operably coupled to the generator; and

20 a downloader of the firmware code to a read-only-memory of the mass storage device, operably coupled to the compiler.

14. The computerized apparatus of claim 13, wherein the mass storage device further comprises a disc drive and the downloader of the representation further comprises:

25 a downloader of the representation of a minimized sector variable-bits-per-inch table to a system sector of the recording medium of the disc drive.

15. A computerized apparatus for obtaining at least one variable-bits-per-inch parameter of an electronic device, the apparatus comprising:

a receiver of a request for the at least one variable-bits-per-inch parameter of the electronic device, the request including an indication of a head and an

5 indication of a zone; and

an obtainer of the at least one variable-bits-per-inch parameter of the electronic device from the minimized sector variable-bits-per-inch table, from the indication of the head and an indication of the zone.

10 16. The computerized apparatus of claim 15, wherein the obtainer further comprises:

a generator of a query for the at least one variable-bits-per-inch parameter of the electronic device, from the indication of a head and an indication of a zone;

15 a transmitter of the query to a manager of the minimized sector variable-bits-per-inch table; and

a receiver of the at least one variable-bits-per-inch parameter from the manager.

17. The computerized apparatus of claim 15, wherein the electronic device further comprises a mass storage device and the minimized sector variable-bits-per-inch table is stored on a system sector of the recording medium of the mass storage device.

20 18. The computerized apparatus of claim 17, wherein the mass storage device further comprises a disc drive.

25 19. The computerized apparatus of claim 18, wherein the manager references only the minimized sector variable-bits-per-inch table to retrieve a number of sectors per track variable-bits-per-inch parameter.

20. A system for configuring an electronic device comprising:
a processor; and
means operative on the processor for managing a minimized
representation of a sector variable-bits-per-inch table of a disc
5 drive, the representation including an index to a disc drive head, an
index to a disc drive zone, and an associated sector-per-track data.

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